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Case K 188

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of: Klaus Schubert et al

Title: STATIC MICROMIXER

Hon. Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, DC 20231

December 5, 2001

SIR:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT - SECTION 1.97(b)

Under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. Section 1.56, and in accordance with 37 C.F.R. Sections 1.97 and 1.98, applicants' representative hereby submits US Patent & Trademark Office Form PTO-1449. Copies of the references cited therein are submitted for consideration in the examination of the above-referenced patent application. It is respectfully requested that they be made of record, along with whatever references the Examiner may find in the course of a search, should the Examiner consider them material to the subject application.

This Statement is hereby submitted under Section 1.97(b) since it is being submitted concurrently with the filing of the above-referenced application.

WO 97 17130 and DE 196 26 246 A have been discussed in the introductory part of the application. All three references have been marked "A" as relating to background material by the International Examiner in the International Examination Report.

None of these references discloses that in a static micromixer which comprises at least one mixing chamber and one guide component disposed upstream of the mixing chamber and which includes channels extending therethrough at an angle to the longitudinal axis of the micromixer, so that the channels of alternate layers intersect without communicating with each

other, the cross-section of the channels decreases steadily from the entrance end to the exit end of the guide component so as to reduce the pressure losses of the fluid flowing through the channels for mixing in the mixing chamber.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K. Bach', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Klaus J. Bach, Reg. No.: 26832